

DOWNERS GROVE PARK DISTRICT 2017 MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

AWARDS | PARKS & FACILITIES | SPECIAL INITIATIVES
PROGRAMS & EXPERIENCES | SPECIAL EVENTS



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23,500
Homes Receive
Seasonal
Recreation Guide



45,000+
Annual
Sports & Program
Participants



20,000+
Annual
Special Event
Attendees



36,000+
Annual
Rounds of Golf



120,000+
Visits to
4500 Fitness



7,200+
Visitors to
McCollum Park

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DOWNERS GROVE PARK DISTRICT 2017 MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS



AWARDS

- Received the **CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING** by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the 2016 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.
- The Downers Grove Golf Club achieved designation as a **CERTIFIED AUDUBON COOPERATIVE SANCTUARY** through the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses.
- The Downers Grove Golf Club was rated a **TOP 10 9-HOLE GOLF COURSE** by The Links Magazine.

PARKS & FACILITIES

- Completed a path renovation, ball field renovations and installed new backstops at **POWERS PARK**.
- Installed six new high-efficiency heating, ventilation and air conditioning units and digital building control systems at the **LINCOLN CENTER**.
- Installed 11 new destratification fans and multiple LED light fixtures at the **RECREATION CENTER** to reduce energy costs by circulating air and balancing temperature levels in large spaces with high ceilings (partially funded through a grant provided by Illinois Energy Now).
- Installed new shade structure and recycling/composting center at **LYMAN WOODS NATURE CENTER**.
- Acquired and converted a 1/2-acre parcel at 6821 S. Main Street into open space at **MCCOLLUM PARK**.
- Experienced a 48% increase in revenue with 2,066 more visitors at **MINER MIKE'S ADVENTURE GOLF**.
- A herd of 68 goats and sheep assisted with natural brush management over 5.8 acres at the **BELMONT PRAIRIE BUFFER** and 1.2 acres at **PATRIOTS PARK**.

SPECIAL INITIATIVES

- Conducted a **COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT** as part of the District's Master Planning Process including a statistically valid community survey, public open house, stakeholder interviews and a field assessment.
- Implemented the new **RECTRAC REGISTRATION SOFTWARE** including online WebTrac registration platform.
- Cultivated a new partnership with **ALTER BREWING COMPANY** resulting in five new beehives at Lyman Woods Nature Center, the Field to Fermenter program demonstrating the process of harvesting honey and brewing beer as well as sponsorships for the Summer Concert Series and Harvest Fest.
- Secured a new gold-level partnership with **BANK FINANCIAL** featuring advertising and engagement benefits at the Recreation Center.
- Distributed fifty one-gallon oak trees free to the community and planted 15 oak trees at Lyman Woods Nature Center as part of **OAKTOBER OAK AWARENESS MONTH**.
- Celebrated **JULY IS PARKS & REC MONTH** with a calendar featuring "31 Ways to Play" at the DG Park District.
- Collected 133 recycled Christmas trees at McCollum and Whitlock Parks to be chipped for future mulching projects.
- Held the first-ever Hootenanny all-staff in-service training.

PROGRAMS & EXPERIENCES

- Launched the all-new **LINK BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM** at the Lincoln Center with 62 students participating from Fairmount, Henry Puffer, Hillcrest, Indian Trail, Kingsley, Lester, Pierce Downer and Whittier Elementary Schools.
- In partnership with Alter Brewing Company, held a new special one-day excursion, **FIELD TO FERMENTER**, where participants will learned all about honey, brewing and how the two come together to produce delicious beer.
- Celebrated the 125th anniversary of the Victorian Blodgett House located at the Downers Grove Museum with a temporary **100 YEARS OF FAMILY HISTORY EXHIBIT** that explored the history of the Blodgett family and their significant impact on the growth of Downers Grove, the State of Illinois and the United States.
- Twenty youth performers brought magic to the stage with three performances of **THE SECRET GARDEN**, a heartwarming story based on the classic novel written by Frances Hodgson Burnett.
- Distributed 500 free seedlings and planted trees at Lyman Woods, Constitution Park and Patriots Park with preschoolers from the Downers Grove Park District and students from Whittier School as part of the District's **ARBOR DAY PROGRAM**.
- Launched the **TRAIL FIT** outdoor fitness program at Lyman Woods Nature Center.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Welcomed over 15,600 visitors to 13 rockin' nights of the **SUMMER CONCERT SERIES** at Fishel Park.
- Celebrated the 125th Anniversary of the **DOWNERS GROVE GOLF CLUB** with a community open house featuring commemorative giveaways.
- Celebrated autumn with over 3,500 visitors at the second annual **HARVEST FEST** event featuring live entertainment, children's activities, contests, food and adult beverages including the signature Lyman Honey Wheat Ale brewed by Alter Brewing Company with our very own Lyman Woods honey.
- Held the 40th annual **DG 5&8 MILER** featuring a new 8-mile option in conjunction with Harvest Fest and enjoyed by 156 racers.
- Frightened over 700 visitors throughout a thrilling, haunted experience called **THE SEWER**.
- Delighted over 400 visitors at the **MERRY & BRIGHT: A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS** event celebrating the holidays with the historic sights and sounds of Victorian Christmas traditions including carolers, Santa and his reindeer at the Downers Grove Museum.





OUR MISSION

Enriching our community through natural area preservation and exceptional recreation, parks and facilities that inspire memorable experiences.

